



HM-652

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following heading:

TITLE OF THE INVENTION:

Page 1, before the paragraph beginning on line 3, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 5, before the paragraph beginning on line 11, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 15 with the following:

~~The objective with respect to the method is achieved by the features specified in the characterizing clause of Claim 1, and the objective with respect to the device is achieved by the features specified in the characterizing clause of Claim 9, in~~

In accordance with the present invention, which the cast strand, while it is still within the continuous casting installation in the area of the bending or straightening driver rolls after its complete solidification, is deformed by at least one reducing stand at an early point in time, at a temperature that is still so high, and in such a well-defined way with high energy input that

Page 8, before the paragraph beginning on line 18, insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING:

Page 9, before the paragraph beginning on line 8, insert the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION: